U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ♦ U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

## **ENERGY STAR® Fast Facts**

- Energy generation and use, including electricity, is a major cause of air pollution and has also been linked to global warming. The less energy we use, the more pollution we can prevent.
- The ENERGY STAR label has been created by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help consumers quickly and easily identify home appliances and other products that save energy. ENERGY STAR—the symbol for energy efficiency.
- The average house adds more greenhouse gas pollution (emissions of carbon dioxide) to the atmosphere each year than the average car.
- ENERGY STAR-labeled products are more efficient than required under federal standards. For example
  refrigerators, washing machines, central air conditioning systems, and furnaces exceed existing federal
  standards by 20 percent, 50 percent, 20 percent, and 15 percent, respectively. Energy efficiency levels
  for the ENERGY STAR label set by DOE and EPA exceed the current federal standards. Products for which
  there are not federal requirements must meet high-level efficiency requirements.
- ENERGY STAR-labeled TVs and VCRs, the newest additions to the ENERGY STAR Program, make it easy
  for consumers to identify the most energy-efficient models available. By choosing ENERGY STAR-labeled
  TVs and VCRs when replacing old products, the average household can cut carbon dioxide emissions by
  110 pounds a year, which is the equivalent of preserving 11 trees per household each year.
- It's a good time to think about looking for the ENERGY STAR when you are remodeling or just replacing
  energy-using equipment in your home. Major kitchen appliances and heating and cooling equipment now
  bear the ENERGY STAR label.
- ENERGY STAR is a "pocketbook issue." The average household energy bill in the U.S. is \$1,300. By
  choosing ENERGY STAR equipment when replacing old equipment, the average household can cut that bill
  by about 30%.
- If all households and businesses in the United States bought ENERGY STAR-labeled products instead of standard new equipment over the next 15 years, the national energy bill over that time would be reduced by about \$100 billion. The reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide) would be equivalent to taking 17 million cars off the road for each of those 15 years.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label on packaging, literature, product advertising, and products themselves.

## For more information:

Call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937)
Visit the ENERGY STAR Web site at www.energystar.gov